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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Cary Lee Bates et al.

Art Unit: 2641

Serial No.: 09/491,902

Examiner: Daniel Demelash Abebe

Filed: January 27, 2000

Atty. Docket No.: IBM/116

For: AUTOMATED DETECTION OF SPOKEN NUMBERS IN VOICE
MESSAGES

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

RECEIVED

MAR 19 2002

Box NON-FEE AMENDMENT
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Technology Center 2600

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated November 30, 2001, the following
amendments and remarks are provided:

Amendments

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 7, 12, 17 and 24 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1, 8, 10, 13, 22, 25 and 27 to read as follows:

1. (Once Amended) A method of processing a voice message, the method
comprising:

- AI
- (a) performing voice recognition on at least a portion of the voice message
to generate a textual representation of the voice message;
 - (b) detecting a position of a spoken number in the textual representation
of the voice message;
 - (c) determining a playback start position based upon the position of the
spoken number;
 - (d) playing the voice message starting at the playback start position; and
 - (e) automatically dialing the spoken number.